ACROSS / A15

No vehicles allowed to pass on Baguio's P179-M flyover till GMA drives through first

WORLD / A21

Jenna Bush to marry at family's Texas ranch May 10

ENTERTAINMENT / E1

Golden Globe winner celebrates by skinny-dipping; others have viewing parties

Muslims unite with Christians in grief for priest

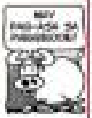
[illegible]

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Friday, January 18, 2008 [illegible]

Pinoy has financial IQ of 48, says American bank

[illegible]



GMA fires aviation chief

Destab plot 'weak, used in power play;' ex-soldier freed

[illegible]



[illegible]

What US air inspectors found unsafe

[illegible]

US Embassy tells citizens to avoid RP airlines

PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL-Arroyo yesterday sacked Air Transportation Office officer in charge Danilo Dimaguila [illegible]—in a blow to Philippine civil aviation pride—the United States Embassy advised Americans to shun Philippine carriers and fly only on airlines of countries that meet international safety standards.

[illegible]



HANDFUL OF OIL

[illegible]

Sagada mother waits for her sweet little helper to come home from Kabul

[illegible]

Estrada: At least ₱5B needed for Palace run

[illegible]

Erap pardon cited in democracy downgrade

[illegible]



CARDINAL SIN LARGER THAN LIFE

[illegible]

Second FrontPage

WEATHER FORECAST

[illegible]

Sumilao farmers are back

'Waiting ends today,' a month after they got Palace promise

By [illegible] and Beverly T. Natividad

DECLARING THEY cannot wait another minute for Malacañang to make good on its promise to hand over a piece of farmland they are claiming, the Sumilao farmers are back in Manila to retrace their "walk for justice" to recover a 144-hectare property in Bukidnon.

[illegible]



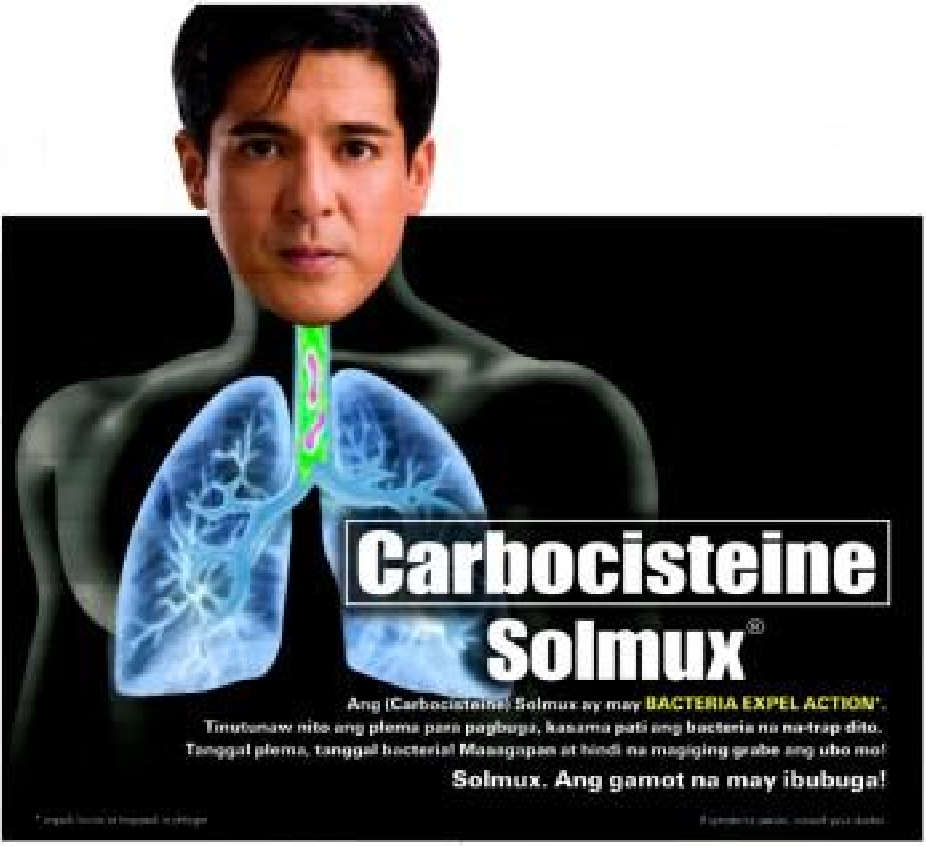
WE'RE BACK. Manila Archbishop Gaudencio Cardinal Rosales gets a hug from a farmer from Sumilao at yesterday's press conference.

[illegible]

WHAT'S INSIDE

- **EXPERT ASKS** PNP, Ayala to make reports public /A5
- **OPPOSITION** wannabes won't listen to Erap, says Angara /A4
- **PNP CHIEF** not amused he's in Friendster /A4

BFAD recalls pain-killer due to side effects





Corrections

[illegible]

Mikey still mum on Lakas leave

By Norman Bordadora

[illegible]

Singing a different tune

[illegible]





Opposition wannabes won't listen to Erap, says Angara

By Dona Z. Pazzibugan

[illegible]



More terrorists hiding in Mindanao

By Alcuin Papa

[illegible]

With Reuters



The Daily Gospel

[illegible]

PNP chief not amused he's in Friendster

By Alcuin Papa

[illegible]

Environmentalists air warning against wild bird hunting

By Jocelyn R. Uy

Expert asks PNP, Ayala to make reports public



COLLIER: "Circumstantial evidence"

Circumstantial

Standing by the report

Doctors oppose generics rule in cheap meds bill

Destab plot 'weak, used in power play;' ex-soldier freed

GMA says new plot just 'political theatrics'

Power bloc

Trailblazing performance

Positive economic indicators

Simple math

3 factors why it will fail

Statements follow script

Pinoy has financial IQ of 48 points, says American bank

Other key findings of Financial IQ survey

No retirement planning

Eleven questions

Credit card payment

Survey outlook

Muslims unite with Christians in grief for priest

Switching vessels

Inviolable

Just solution

Italian priests staying put in South


7
KABAYAN HOTEL
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PAL lowers 2008 targets over air safety mess

33 flights a week

Negligence deplored

GMA fires ATO chief; US Embassy issues advisory vs RP carriers

What rating means

Embassy 'serious concerns'

Civil Aviation Act

Action from Congress

Probe of ATO officials urged

No fiscal autonomy

RP travel agents air fears

By Tarra Quismundo

What US air inspectors found unsafe, like pilot-licensing procedure

Minimum safety requirements

No librarian

Questionable pencil marks

Disorganized file

Help offered

New province still without a governor, voters lament

Baltazar, 70



WINING AND DINING Ex-President Estrada does the math between sips of red wine at the taipanas main office in Makati City.

Estrada: At least ₱5B needed for Palace run

From page A1

presidency 10 years ago, he spent less than P2 billion, of which a large part was made up of cash contributions from friends in the corporate world.

Roughly P6 million went to preparations for his campaign, he said.

But his term as President was abbreviated. In January 2001, after an aborted impeachment trial, he was forced from Malacañang by a "people power" revolt now known as Edsa II.

Quick estimate

It took only seconds for Estrada to come up with his election budget estimate—an apparent indication of his mastery of the business of elections.

"Now a presidential candidate might have to spend about P5 billion. The rates for television and print ads have gone up, but the only way to reach millions of Filipinos is through these media. They cannot go around the country in three months," said the recognized leader of the political opposition.

(This analysis appeared to have been directed at opposition and administration personalities who, this early, have been touted as strong contenders for the No. 1 post—among them Senate President Manuel Villar, Senators Manuel Roxas, Panfilo Lacson, Loren Legarda and Francis Escudero, Makati Mayor Jejomar Binay and Vice President Noli de Castro. Not that money matters would be a problem for Villar, the "housing czar," or Roxas, a scion of the wealthy Araneta clan.)

But for Estrada, hefty funding will not be the major criterion in choosing the one candidate to represent the opposition.

Cash contributions will just pour in along the way, he pointed out.

Survey believer

The man declared himself "a believer of surveys."

"That's why I was undefeated when I ran for mayor, senator, vice president and president," he said, adding that he would choose his candidate among the crop of contenders in the opposition in October 2009 based on survey results.

According to Estrada, survey results were the basis of his decision to drop his plan to run for president in 1992 and settle for the second top post.

"The survey results at that time had me only in the third spot," he recalled. "I knew I didn't have a chance. So I ran for vice president instead—and I won by a landslide."

Leader of the pack

Estrada also said he was open to backing Legarda if she continued her stellar performance in the surveys, particularly the Pulse Asia study of potential 2010 presidential candidates conducted last year.

The survey showed Legarda leading the pack, followed by Roxas, Villar, Lacson and De Castro.

"But it is too early to tell," Estrada acknowledged. "There will be many changes in the days to come."

Erap pardon cited as one of

From page A1

House report as "propaganda" by foreign forces.

"We should be wary of private foreign firms that claim to be expert watchdogs on freedom and democracy. Our people know best," he said.

But the leader of the militant bloc in the House of Representatives said Freedom House's downgrading of the Philippines' rating as a democracy belied the Arroyo administration's proclamations of being one.

"Freedom House's 2008 report removed any remaining pretensions of democracy under Ms Arroyo's seven-year rule. It is a big black eye on Ms Arroyo's record on human rights and good governance," said Bayan Muna Rep. Satur Ocampo, a deputy minority leader.

The number of countries judged free stood at 90, representing 47 percent of the world's 193 countries, and those considered partly free stood at 60, or 31 percent.

Those found not free accounted for nearly 2.4 billion people, about half of them in China.

Reversals

Reversals in freedom were seen in one-fifth of the world's countries, including Pakistan, Kenya, Egypt, Nigeria and Venezuela. One country, Mauritania, joined the list of democracies.

Two countries, Thailand and Togo, were upgraded from not free to partly free.

South Asia, the former Soviet Union and the Middle East did particularly poorly giving "an alarming signal about the development of freedom worldwide, something formerly viewed as inevitable," said Jennifer Windsor, executive director of Freedom House.

Freedom in retreat

In its 2008 report titled "Freedom in Retreat: Is the Tide Turning?" and released

Wednesday, the group [illegible]

"Developments in [illegible] Philippines, Banglade[illegible] qualified them from de[illegible] list.

"The decline of dem[illegible] cant given their size [illegible] the Philippines and Ke[illegible] regarded as importan[illegible] democratic world and [illegible] Africa."

Corruption, killings

For the second [illegible] added, "the survey co[illegible] than I'm the Philipp[illegible] high-level corruption [illegible] don of former Presid[illegible] and a spike in politica[illegible] up to the May 200[illegible] tions."

The group said tha[illegible] rights-rating declined [illegible]

' reasons in RP democracy downgrade

Independent NGO

Elements of electoral democracy

Massive voter fraud

Fallout? Local carrier denied permission to fly over Vietnam

By Tara Quismundo

No clearance

Billeted at Heritage

Sagada mother waits for her sweet little . . .

So loving, giving

$700 monthly

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

OPINION

Clipped wings

THE DECISION OF THE US FEDERAL AVIATION Administration to downgrade Philippine airline operators does not hurt Philippine Airlines alone, although the expansion program of the first flag carrier has now been put on hold. It disadvantages the country as a whole.

Why does it matter that another country's aviation authority finds ours inadequate? Because millions of Filipinos work and reside in the United States, because the United States accounts for about a third of the revenues of a major company like PAL, because other countries inevitably follow US aviation standards. Not least, because at a time of greater globalization and continuing terrorism, the country cannot afford to have its transportation infrastructure ridiculed throughout the world.

EDITORIAL

The news about the downgrade broke only this week, but Philippine transportation officials already knew about the calamitous decision last month. Indeed, given the nature of these reviews, which rely on the cooperation of and the grant of access by host governments, officials of the Air Transportation Office or the Department of Transportation and Communications must have known about the adverse finding well in advance.

Sen. Joker Arroyo puts the blame squarely on the two agencies: "Neither the Department of Transportation and Communications nor the ATO told the Senate anything about the impending downgrade which they already knew during the budget hearings in October. What they did is that just before the Christmas recess, they stampeded Congress to pass the Civil Aviation Authority Act bill, according to them, we be downgraded. Congress acted on it with practically no debate. Still, the FAA downgraded us."

It was, typically, a case of too little, too late. As Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile noted, in a press statement released by his office yesterday, the "International Aviation Safety Assessment [was] conducted by the Federal Aviation Administration on July 23 to 27 last year." In other words, officials should have seen it coming.

But the thrust of Enrile's statement was to shift the burden of responsibility to the House of Representatives. "Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile, chairman of the Senate Committee on Public Services, clarified that the Senate has approved on third reading House Bill No. 3336, or the Civil Aviation Authority Act of 2008, before Congress adjourned for Christmas break last year. But the bicameral conference committee could not be convened yet, Enrile said, because the House of Representatives had yet to constitute the members of its panel."

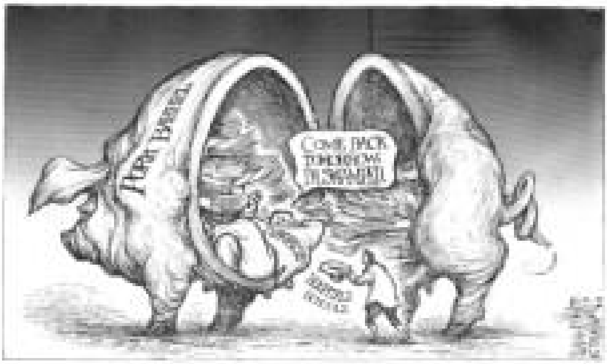
That may well be, but in the light of the nature of the FAA's "serious concerns," that is almost beside the point. The DOTC, which oversees the ATO, has already decided to paint Congress as the scapegoat. Retired police general Thomas Lantion, speaking for the DOTC, told reporters that Congress must first pass the bill creating a Civil Aviation Authority—as though this would solve all the ATO's problems.

In its Jan. 8 report, the FAA identified specific areas of concern, including outdated aviation regulations, poor training programs for safety inspectors and sub-standard licensing for air frame and engine inspectors. The government can raise the standards in these specific areas and comply with international aviation safety regulations even without a CAA. Granted, the new agency will make the upgrading process more efficient, but does that mean the ATO and the DOTC will simply wait for Congress to act before acting themselves?

What the CAA will do is allow the government to allocate more funds for air safety, the purchase of new equipment or the training of more personnel. But as Arroyo asked pointedly, why didn't the ATO simply ask for more money?

"What the ATO asked for in the 2007 and 2008 budgets Malacañang gave, the House gave, and the Senate gave in full. In short, what ATO asked for, they got," Arroyo said. "Precisely, the FAA is complaining that we do not have the facilities to maintain international safety standards. And what did ATO ask for—P22 million or $573,000 only. In 2007, ATO asked only for P7.37 million or $158,000."

The flyboys at the ATO and the scandal-stricken officials of the DOTC have some explaining to do.



A tribute to the UST Varsitarian

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

TOMORROW BEING THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY of the founding of the Varsitarian, the student publication of the University of Santo Tomas, [illegible]

A matter of (dis)trust

PASSION FOR REASON

Raul C. Pangalangan

WHEN THE CHIEF PROSECUTORIAL ARM of the republic issues a warning [illegible]

Will ex-Mexicans choose next US president?

WORLD VIEW



Jorge Castañeda

Plastic or paper

PINOY KASI



Michael L. Tan

Pinoys to cheer for

AT LARGE



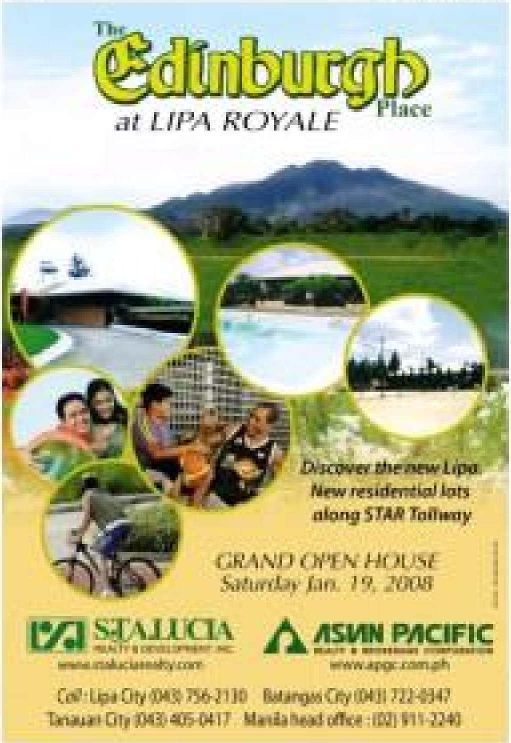
Rina Jimenez-David

Real challenge in RP education

LOOKING BACK



Ambeth R. Ocampo



Run after tax cheats first

High time for gov't to regulate drug prices

Streets named in honor of corrupt politicians

Erratum

Across the NATION

GMA sked keeps motorists off ₱179-M flyover in Baguio City

By Vincent Cabreza
Inquirer Northern Luzon



Malaysian team to end peace duty without pact

COTABATO CITY—A MALAYSIA-LED TEAM that helps enforce a truce between Moro guerrillas and government troops said it was likely to pull out of Mindanao if no peace agreement was signed by August.

Eggplant festival: Pure, clean fun

HOMETOWN Snapshot

New Bacolod, Iloilo airports declared int'l gateways

Whitewash feared in graft raps vs Tesda head





READ WHAT THE WORLD PRESS WROTE ABOUT EDSA II... AND WEEP FOR PHILIPPINE DEMOCRACY.

The foreign press did not stand idly by as the events leading to EDSA II unfolded. Most of the wire services and major international networks had correspondents monitoring events and reporting on these accordingly.

As a result, the controversial nature of the Arroyo take-over in January, 2001 did not escape international scrutiny and received widespread coverage in global media outlets.

The following offer glimpses of what was written about the power grab that deprived President Joseph Estrada of the presidential mandate overwhelmingly given to him by the Philippine electorate in the May 1998 presidential elections. These articles were written by respected international journalists whose keen political sense and acumen are unquestionable.

TIME

"Remember Estrada – however cynically – was acting within the framework of the law and under the terms called for by the impeachment proceedings. Had he been declared guilty, he would have had to go. The troubling point remains that he had not been convicted... But they had mechanisms to legally change their head of state. The option they chose, popular uprising, while rousing and probably justified, could portend a troubling future for democracy... But if these protests lead to constitutionally questionable succession, it becomes a subversion of democracy. Even now, we don't know what percentage of Filipinos wanted Erap to go."

-Sandra Burton, TIME,
29 January 2001

"But the Philippine polity is 77 million strong. Was this a revolution of the Philippine people - or of a few hundred thousand Filipinos prompted by a few hundred individuals? Perhaps this represents confusion between democratic passions and the rule of law. More likely, though, People Power has become its own institution and one that seems monopolized by a certain clique... People Power has become an acceptable term for a troubling phenomenon: one that used to be known as mob rule."

-Anthony Spaeth, TIME,
29 January 2001

"Legitimacy questions...crack the foundation of her presidency from her first day in office. The cracks deepened following Estrada's arrest in May, a foolishly showy affair that made him a martyr and caused mob riots quickly dubbed EDSA III... an economy in doldrums. An army that could turn against her. An ex-President who might be more popular than she is. And now, the U.S. soldiers landing on her shores. What Arroyo needs is a bulwark. But without an electoral mandate, the only source is massive public support, the kind more likely to respond to image and inspiration than intellect."

Power and Gloria, Phil Zabriskie,
TIME, 28 January 2002

The Economist

"Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo took over the presidency in constitutional circumstances that do not stand up well to scrutiny."

The Economist,
28 July - 30 August 2001

International Herald Tribune

THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWSPAPER | IHT.COM

"However, far from being a victory for democracy that is being claimed by leaders of the anti-Estrada movement such as Jaime Sin, the evolution of events has been a defeat for due process. For many, it merely confirms the fragility of political institutions in the Philippines and the likelihood that the streets will become a regular location for political action."

-Filipino Democracy Needs Stronger Institutions
Philip Bowring,
International Herald Tribune,
22 January 2001

"The result is that the Philippines, known for the 'people power' movement that brought down Ferdinand Marcos, has the wrong kind of people power of the 21st century. The Philippines faces a political crisis that goes beyond the need to replace the person at the top. The challenge is to correct the situation in which society is divided into those who can commandeer the system and those who cannot."
-Removing Estrada Will Not Save the Philippines
Hilton L. Root,

International Herald Tribune,
21 November 2000

The New York Times

"People Power 2 was met with doubt and criticism, described by foreign commentators as a 'defeat for due process,' as 'mob rule,' as 'a de facto coup.' It was seen as an elitist backlash against a President who had overwhelmingly been elected by the poor... This time it appears 'people power' was used not to restore democracy but, momentarily, to supplant it."

-Seth Mydans,
New York Times News Service
6 February 2001

THE STRAITS TIMES

"The change of power in the Philippines was no boost for democracy because it was done outside the Constitution..."

Lee Kuan Yew
Interviewed by Associated Press,
The Straits Times,
23 January 2001

Los Angeles Times

"Now by contrast, we are witnessing the use of people power against a leader who was the winner of a legitimate democratic election. No matter how understandable it was, this outbreak of people power doesn't feel like an advance for the cause of democracy, quite the opposite... Who or what, ultimately, was this particular movement against?..."

-A Risky Move by Filipinos,
Jim Mann, Los Angeles Times,
24 January 2001

The Washington Post

"...This time, however, the target of Filipinos' 'people power' was not a dictator, like Ferdinand Marcos, but Joseph Estrada, a constitutional executive who received more votes than any previous presidential candidate and who remained popular among the country's poor... Though the Supreme Court ruled that Vice President Macapagal-Arroyo should be sworn in as president, the legality of the transfer remains questionable."

Editorial
"A People Powered Coup"
-The Washington Post,
23 January 2001

Asia Times Online

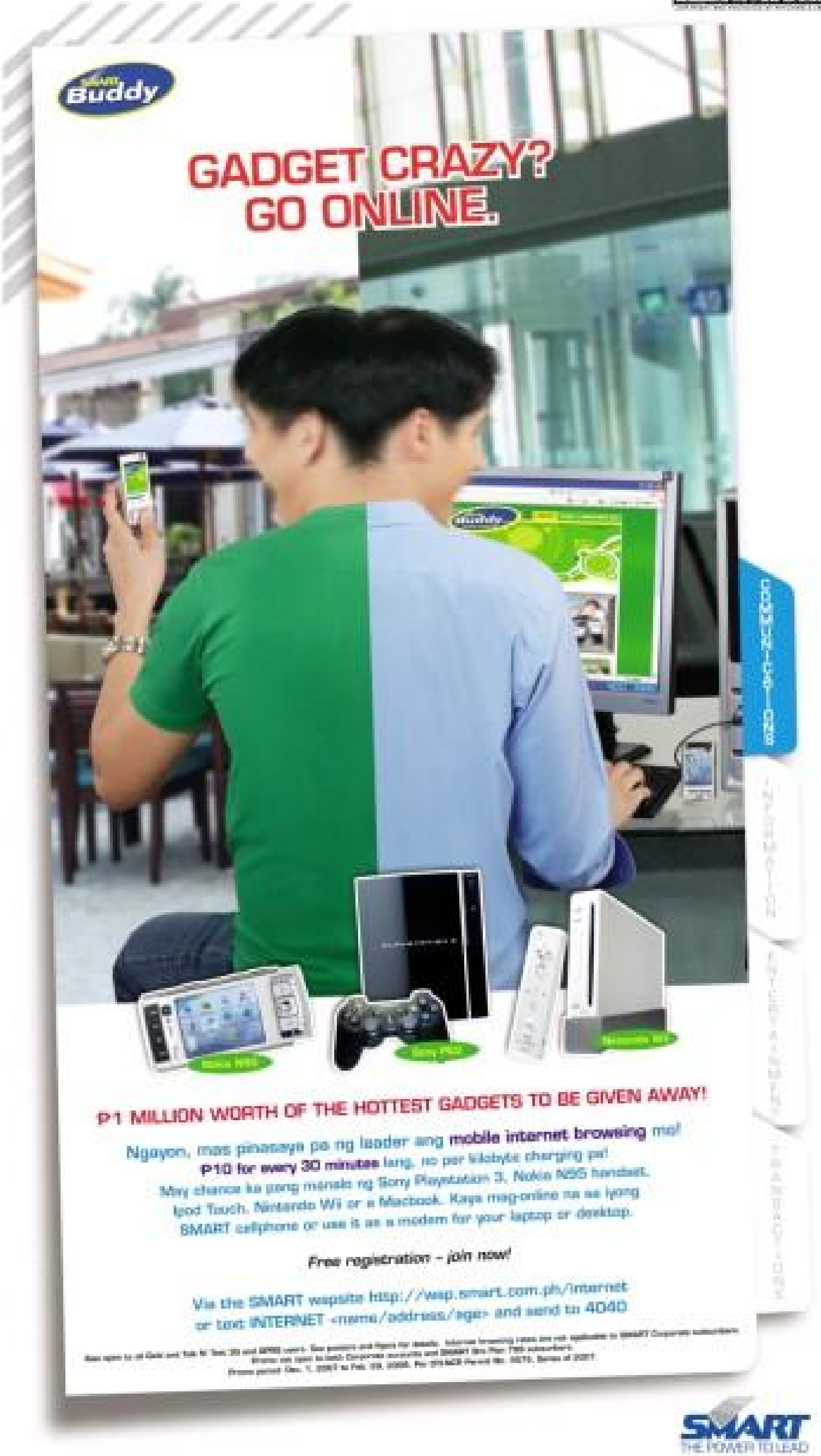
"Again, therefore, whatever curious legal construction anyone may now attempt to put on the ouster of Estrada, he was ousted by a military coup, with the connivance of the leadership of the Roman Catholic Church, major business groups and two former presidents. This will have any number of consequences, none too pleasant, for the coup makers and - more importantly - for the country. One loser among the coup makers will be the Archbishop of Manila, Jaime Cardinal Sin, and his church... Economically, from the standpoint of foreign investors, would you put money into a country whose constitutional and legal system are only as reliable as the will and whim of an entrenched oligarchical elite..."

-Editorial: Philippines: Banana Republic - At Best,
Asia Times, 23 January 2001

These insights written by respected international journalists reflect the sparse and uncompromising assessment on the same event offered by the Honorable Cecilia Muñoz Palma, former Justice of the Supreme Court and Chairman of the 1987 Constitutional Convention:

"The 1987 Constitution suffered. This happened when the ongoing impeachment trial of President Joseph Estrada was unceremoniously disrupted and discontinued and the issues on hand were brought to the parliament of the streets. The Rule of Law was set aside and the Rule of Force prevailed."

PMP Pwersa ng Masang Pilipino


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Did you know

Metro garbage crisis averted

DENR allows new 19-hectare landfill in Rizal to operate

By Jocelyn R. Uy

THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RE-sources has given the Rizal provincial government permission to operate the 19-hectare sanitary landfill in Rodriguez, Rizal province, averting a garbage crisis in Metro Manila.

NBI to investigate alleged horse racing irregularities

By Tina G. Santos

THE NATIONAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION yesterday said it would investigate alleged irregularities in the horse racing industry.

Piolo, Sam present 11 witnesses in libel case

By Allison W. Lopez

6-month-old fetus found in Malacañang toilet

By Michael Lim Ubac and Tina G. Santos



15 families lose homes in Ermita fire

By Tina G. Santos

MetroBriefs

Grudge angle eyed in manager's slay

Not on Mendiola

Libya ordered to pay billions to bomb victims

Militants overrun Pakistan fort, killing 22



WORST IN MEMORY

Iran: Western pressure on nuke activities failing

Cholesterol theory reassessed

US opposes Taiwan UN referendum

Jenna Bush to marry at family's Texas ranch May 10



JENNA BUSH

4 million-year-old rodent was the size of a bull



The WORLD

Editor: Lynette B. Ilustre

Dispute between Russia, UK deepens

MOSCOW—A BRITISH CULTURAL ORGANIZATION at the center of a dispute between the Kremlin and Britain closed its office in St. Petersburg on Wednesday under pressure from Russia's intelligence service, which summoned the organization's entire Russian staff for questioning, Russian and British officials said.

The closing, which a British official said was temporary, occurred the morning after the organization's director, Stephen Kinnock, was stopped in front of his home by Russian authorities and accused of drunken driving. The British government said he had been falsely accused.

"First thing to say, right up front: he was not drunk," said James Bathurst, a spokesperson for the British Embassy here, who suggested that the Russian allegations, which were widely circulated by the Russian news media, were a pretext used to intensify an already bitter dispute.

Kinnock, whose status as an accredited diplomat gives him legal protections, was not arrested or charged with any crime. But the public allegations against him, and the questioning of the staff of the British Council, which is the official cultural arm of the British government, were condemned in London, where David Miliband, Britain's foreign secretary, accused Russia of "intimidation."

Miliband, speaking to reporters, said the actions were "completely unacceptable." The Russian ambassador in London, Yury V. Fedotov, was summoned to meet a senior British official. "We would like to hear where the Russians plan to take it from here," a British official said, speaking on the condition of anonymity under civil service rules. For his part, Miliband insisted that all of the council's activities complied with both the law and diplomatic conventions.

"The work of the British Council in Russia is completely legal under Russian and international law, and we think it is very important to defend the integrity of our officials in the work that they are doing," Miliband said. The episode has acquired a high profile in London since Kinnock is a son of Neil Kinnock, a former Labor Party leader and a member of the House of Lords.

The new moves against the British Council, and the public use of the Russian intelligence service against its staff, were the latest twist in a downward spiral in relations since the death of Alexander V. Litvinenko, a former KGB officer, in London in November 2006.

Litvinenko died after ingesting a highly toxic radioactive isotope, polonium 210. Scotland Yard has accused another former KGB officer, Andrei Lugovoi, of murdering him. Russia has refused to extradite him to stand trial. *New York Times News Service*



THE FACES of Russian President Vladimir Putin and would-be successor, current First Deputy Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev, adorn traditional Matryoshka nesting dolls, Jan. 11 in Moscow. AP

Scientists find a key to conquering chronic pain

PARIS—SCIENTISTS SAID they found a substance that, in mice, blocks chronic pain but does not appear to cause any of the unwanted side effects of existing painkillers, according to a study released on Wednesday.

Researchers led by Hanns Zeilhofer of the University of Zurich in Switzerland found the compound after exploring the way pain signals travel up to the brain via the spinal cord.

"Normally the spinal cord acts as a kind of filter, ensuring that not all painful signals coming from the periphery of the body reach the brain," Zeilhofer said.

If these neurological gatekeepers were totally absent, even the lightest touch on the skin would make us wince with discomfort, he explained. "We would be in constant pain with our shirts."

But in patients with chronic pain, this filter function is impaired, meaning that the spinal cord is like an open channel for pain signals, he said.

A key role in the inhibition process is played by two nervous system chemicals, called neurotransmitters.

One is gamma-aminobutyric acid, also known as GABA, and the other is glycine.

"We thought we could restore the filter function if we pharmacologically enhance the action of GABA or glycine in the spinal cord," said Zeilhofer.

The scientists found L-838,417, a compound that suppressed the pain signals without causing sedation or losing its effectiveness over time.

Although the drug blunted chronic pain, it did not cause numbness that blocks acute pain—the sharp sensation that comes from burning or a cut, for instance. Acute pain is a vital survival mechanism. AFP

WHAT'S INSIDE



Federer wizardry amazes 'magician' /A26

SPORTS



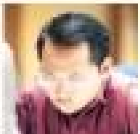
COMMISSIONERSHIP IMPASSE

PBA promotes Barrios instead





Paragua whips Indonesian GM, jacks up lead





Aventajado may challenge ally Peping in POC polls



AVENTAJADO



DAYRIT



COJUANGCO

Jaya shoots 70, leads Ikeda by 3



Jockey Dilema, Es Twenty Six bag PSA awards

SPORTSWATCH

Key tiffs set for Viloria, Gabi

Tabunar, Go Scoop guests

Pacman derby in Pasay today



Government Warning: Cigarette smoking is dangerous to your health.

Federer wizardry amazes 'magician'





Sorenstam, Ochoa miss World Cup

Judge scolds Simpson for arrogance, ignorance



Raptors thump Kings; Bulls up

Bosh spoils Bibby's return

NBA STANDINGS



SPORTS

Pacquiao awes fans in first LA workout



THE PACMAN works on the double-ended bag in his first day "in office."

Chess congress to push thru in Tagaytay, says Pichay



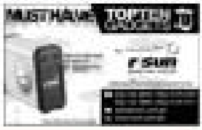
Rich TCC Invt'l golf next week

By Musong R. Castillo

P1.2M, not P10M, given to cue artists

By Marc Anthony Reyes

BUSINESS



IN THIS ISSUE

Gov't to bid out prime property in Japan

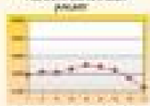
RP eyes 50-year lease for real estate worth up to P6B

THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE WILL BID OUT on March 4 the 50-year lease for the government property at the Fujimi district in Tokyo, Japan.

CURRENCIES



STOCK MARKET



Stock exchange marks its worst close in 5 months





Revoked corporate papers



GSIS still keen on FTI land

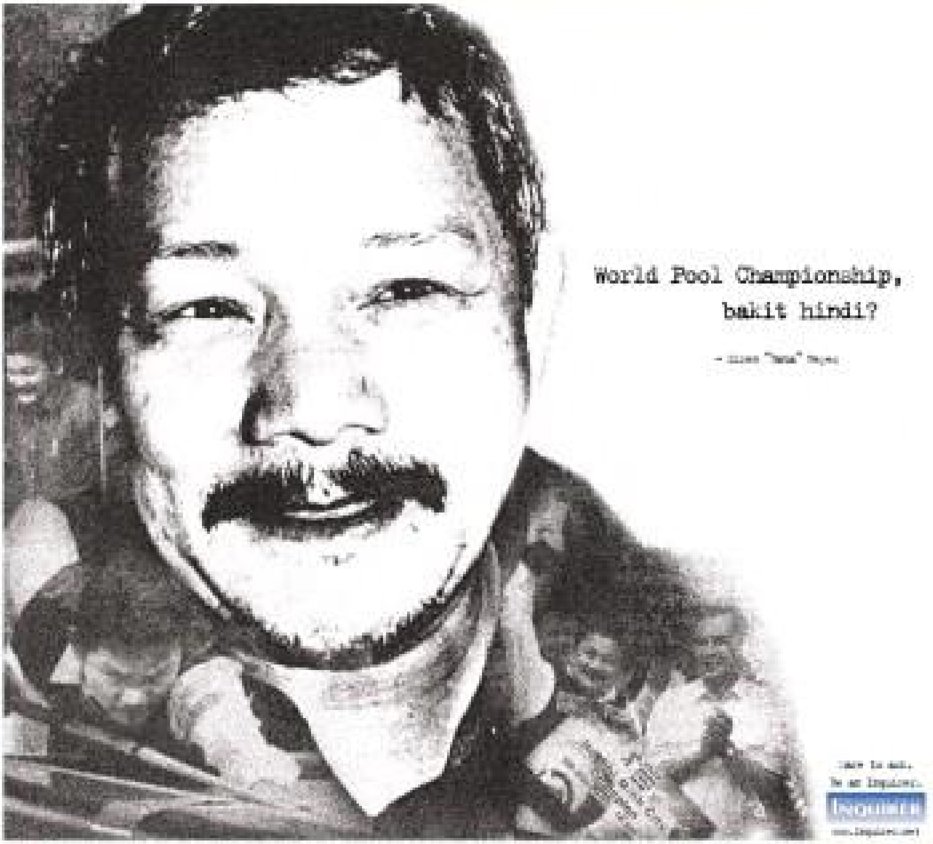
ExportBank to raise ₱3.8B

Fund urges gov't to decide on offer



Gov't reaching out to overseas workers





Government debt dipped in Oct. '07 to ₱3.798T

Strengthening peso helps RP reduce foreign obligations



BPO firms out to grab bigger share of finance, accounting services sector



Dreaming of a 7% agri growth

COMMENTARY

Responsive plans

Suffering OFWs

Recommendation

PNOC-AFC, Petron entering into biodiesel offtake contract

Agreement seen approved in March

Geograce OKs deals with NiHao, other firms

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

DTI may extend safeguards

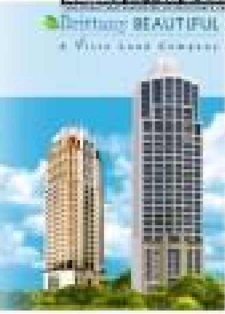
Imports threaten to swamp RP tile makers



Stock exchange marks worst . . .

Gov't to bid out . . .

BUSINESS Friday





Ricky Reyes goes into franchising

But he is not selling ownership of his salon, he is selling his school





Sharon stars in Filipino supermarket ad campaign in US



SEAFOOD City's wedding ad

Survey shows strong consumer confidence in most Asian markets

Despite volatility in financial markets

The MasterCard Worldwide Index of Consumer Confidence & the Region

MARKETS	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Australia	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
China	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Hong Kong	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Indonesia	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Japan	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Korea	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Malaysia	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
New Zealand	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Philippines	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Singapore	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Taiwan	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Thailand	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Vietnam	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
The Region	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Employment	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Economy	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Regular Income	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Stock Market	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Quality of Life	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Philippine findings



Giving 'Japayukis' a new lease

Ricky Reyes goes into ...

From page B4-1





CROPPING is an [illegible]

Ricky Reyes Learning Institute franchise

Branding the Philippines in a 'flat' world



Standing out in a flat world

Bountiful natural resources

Made in the Philippines™

Country branding

The brand is us

Marketing RX



BUSINESS *Friday*

'Should we continue extending our sales promo even if... ?'



Are you in denial?

The start of a price war!

Think long-term

COLLEEN DECOURCY TO CHAIR 2008 CANNES LIONS CYBER JURY



Mentor/mentee tandem to tackle Blue Ocean Strategy

LIFESTYLE

Editor Chito Benet-Fortun

WEDNESDAY 2BU • THURSDAY FOOD • FRIDAY FASHION & BEAUTY



Natori show 1st big event of 2008

The first Filipino global brand in fashion design marks 30th year

LIFE-STYLED
Thelma Sioson San Juan

EASILY THE BIGGEST FASHION news this first half of 2008 is the February gala of Josie Natori, the first Filipino fashion designer to have become a global brand. She's mighty proud to be Filipino. She, in fact, declares her ethnicity at every media exposure.

She is also the first, and so far the only, Filipino designer to be called an "iconic brand" by the world retail giants, from Bloomingdale's to Neiman Marcus.

This will be New York-based Natori's first show in her country in perhaps a decade. We learned that the Asia Society founded by another indefatigable Filipina, Doris Magsaysay Ho, is producing the benefit show, with dinner seats going for as high as P15,000 each. Indeed this is the hot ticket for early 2008.

For Natori, the show assumes added significance because the fashion house is celebrating its 30th year—a milestone for a designer and a brand that's [illegible] in New York, the world's most competitive fashion capital.

Honored by WWD

Natori's 30th anniversary is an occasion that has been honored in Women's Wear Daily (WWD) and other fashion rags the world over. When Natori turned 30 years old on Nov. 1 last year, WWD marked the milestone by heralding the evolution of the

NATORI C3







Fireworks and kisses on Boracay

















WITHOUT BATTING AN EYELASH

Maurice Arcache





















Jeans and shirts fair

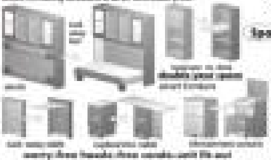


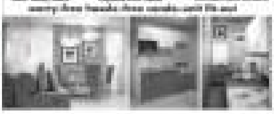




Natori show 1st big event of 2008







Goings On

Concert for a cause



PROMODEL Blue Note

SUPERSTAR Ballerina

PROMODEL Toff Gong

CAMPUS Vintage Low

STAN Smith Vintage

There's nothing like the original

ADIDAS ORIGINALS' Spring/Summer 2008 collection offers products that allow people to celebrate authenticity, creativity and individuality.







GREAT Britain Zip Hoody



PINSTRIPE Track Top

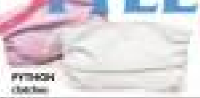
Editor: Chito Bunal Formoso

LifeStyle

Contributing Editors: Apples Aberin-Sadhwani and Jessie Eppieman



FLAT sandals with studs



PYTHON clutches



MULTI-HUED Gommini men's loafers with laces

FASHION



TOD'S PR Associate Flora Lee wears the oversized [illegible] messenger bag in purple.

The bright stuff

By Apples Aberin-Sadhwani

IMAGINE OPENING A FRESH BOX OF crayons that's chock full of delicious and vibrant hues. That's the picture you get with Tod's Spring/Summer 2008 collection.

The Italian brand, generally known for more sober cuts and styles, is presenting a playful twist this season with its unabashed use of bright colors applied on the most luxurious of materials.

Updated versions of Tod's iconic pieces such as the D Bag, the design of which was inspired by the late Princess Diana, come in must-have patent leather and rich, eye-catching colors like jade, topaz and sapphire. Versions of the classic Tod's "Gommino" with its trademark 133 rubber pebbles also come in vibrant, summery styles in the same patent leather and brilliant hues.

The latest collection is, as always, a combination of the most precious materials along with extraordinary craftsmanship and fresh designs that spell pure luxury.

Tod's hobo messenger bags and up-to-the minute clutches are available in calf leather and exotic skins like snake, lizard and crocodile. Even sporty-looking totes and messenger bags are available in an interesting mix of nylon and crocodile trimmings. All these, of course, come in the brightest of hues, from sunshiny yellow to the most electric blue.

Interesting little details also characterize Tod's offerings. Braiding, hand-painting and hardware like studs and zippers are used to accentuate certain pieces. Tod's designer Derek Lam, for instance, [illegible] sexy sandals with [illegible] heels and lizard details as accents. Meanwhile, summer staples like flat sandals are embellished with studs and tortoise shells.

Real men wear brights

Tod's Spring/Summer collection for men

THE BRIGHTS D2



THE PERKY [illegible] in a sunshiny yellow



STYLIZED loafers in striking crayon colors

The bright stuff

From page D1

also consists of rainbow brights that can easily update a neutral wardrobe. Light and extremely flexible with soft soles in natural rubber, the new "Gommini" loafers come in vivid shades of red, green, purple, orange and yellow.

Neutral tones, of course, are also available for less adventurous males. Earth tones, blacks and grays are just for the course, all done in ultra chic and other styles and somewhat inspired by the 1970s when people worked hard and played even harder. As such, loafers, lace ups, sailing shoes and new contemporary bags are available in the finest and softest leather, skins or ultra light materials.

One of the most iconic pieces this season is the Bauletto bag. A refined and modern re-interpretation of the classic Tod's handbag, it plays down the seriousness of the work environment without sacrificing elegance and the appeal of exceptional craftsmanship.

Accessories such as cosmetic pouches, key rings, belts and bracelets round up Tod's must-cut Spring-Summer collection. If you're looking to liven up your wardrobe this season, consider all these bright stuff that come in luxurious materials and a striking mix of eye-catching crayon colors.

In the Philippines, Tod's shoes, bags and accessories are exclusively distributed by Stores Specialists, Inc. (SSI) and are available at the Tod's Boutique located at Greenbelt 4, Ayala Center, Makati.

E-mail the author at ...@inquirer.com.ph



THE NEW version of the iconic D Bag



FLAT sandals with cowrie shell



OPEN-TOE pump loafers in peanut leather



DESIGNER Derek ...



THE SOFTY shopping tote in a buttery hue



MULTIPLE zippers and edgy hardware accentuate classic styles



MULTI-HUED Gommini loafers with lace



THE BARRISTER bag



NADIM ...

model citizens model citizens model





PHOTOGRAPHER Jo Ann Bitagcol

Belles of the ball

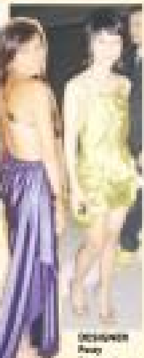
AT THE SAMSUNG MEGA FASHION AWARDS, THE country's most vibrant personalities gathered together for an unforgettable sartorial feast. Crystal chandeliers sparkled and legendary stilettos glimmered at the Hotel Intercontinental Manila's grand ballroom, as boldface names from the fashion, entertainment, business, society and political scenes arrived to celebrate art created from fashion—but more importantly, to honor Filipino talent and ingenuity.

Although the evening's honorees all went up on stage to claim their Pearlman trophies designed by Celine Castillo, the clear winners of the evening were the glamorous women who came dressed in their most chic best.

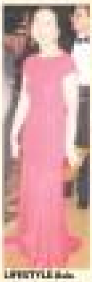
Inquirer Fashion picks the most stylish belles of the ball.



ASTRUD ...



DESIGNER ...



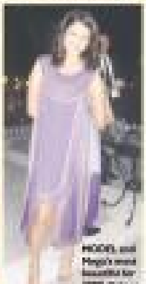




LIFESTYLE Asia editor-in-chief ...

INQUIRER columnist ...





MODEL and Mega's most beautiful for 2007 ...

And the Samsung Mega fashion award 2007 goes to...

Mega Style Icon Imelda Marcos

Best in Menswear Design Joey Samson

Best in Makeup Lala Flores

Best in Ready-to-Wear Design

Best in Couture Design Jojie Lloren

Best in Fashion Photography Sara Black

Best in Hairstyle Henri Calapiz

Best in Bridal Design Dennis Lustico

Best in Evening Wear Design Ivarluski Aseron

Best Male and Female Runway Models

Best Male and Female Commercial Models John Hallaly and Kelly Misa

Best Accessories Designer Cesar Gaupo

Best Local Retailer Bench

Most Promising Designer John Herrera

Best in Streetwear Design Mich Dulce

Best International Retailer Zara

Most Fashionable Female Personality Anne Curtis

Most Fashionable Male Personality Tim Yap







GENOVA Uomo



COMANDANTE



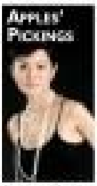
FIORE



REGOLA Regno

Affordable luxury

Cerruti 1881 endeavors to offer good quality timepieces at accessible prices to a discerning market



APPLES' PICKINGS

Apples Aberin-Sadhwani







ROMA Chrono

Close to 40 years of premium skincare



From basic facials to full-scale surgical procedures, Dermclinic has indeed come a long way





Mascara to the extreme



How I beat Murphy's Law

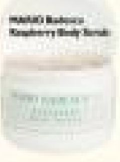






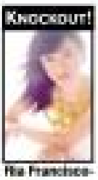
Humps, bumps and nasty lady lumps







ANTI-WATER RETENTION gel



Ria Francisco-Prieto

Humps, bumps and nasty lady lumps

Now I've realized that many hair products are harmful to our skin, so be very aware of this while in the shower



Toning & Firming Cream

BEAUTY

I'VE NOTICED that I now have cream on my legs that weren't there before. I even have skin, which I thought I wasn't prone to.

Well, I thought wrong. In fact, I have them where I thought you could never get them... like the neck! Just I noticed I have at least eight.

I have other "things" growing and appearing on my skin that I'm at a loss about. Actually, come to think of it, I have been eating so much junk food and drinking soda, which I never really enjoyed before. Well, things are different now.

I asked a friend who is going to be a dermatologist why all this is happening. She said it is part of pregnancy.

There are things I am aware of now that everyone, pregnant or not, should take into consideration.

First, when it comes to zits and those bumps that they say are white heads. When shampooing, it is good to bend over, so that when rinsing your hair the suds don't pass your back and even your chest. They can irritate skin and cause breakouts. My friend says clear shampoos are best, like Neutrogena or Johnson's baby shampoo.

Second, when it comes to conditioners, the clearer the better. Again, it is advisable to bend over and make sure the suds don't hit any body part. The more fragrant and colored the conditioner, or if its consistency is like a lotion's, then keep it as far from your skin as possible. Conditioners can block pores!

Another friend of mine who has skin took her dermatologist's advice to just condition the hair tips if possible.

Now I've realized that many hair products are harmful to our skin, so be very aware of this while in the shower.

Going back to cellulite, which I wrote about recently, I bought so many pro-

TURN TO D5

ENTERTAINMENT

'Idol' talk



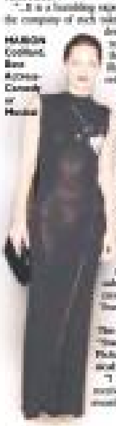
Golden Globe winner celebrates by skinny-dipping

'Ratatouille' director rues 'No slow walk up to the stage, no speech'

ONLY IN HOLLYWOOD



Ruben V. Nepales









PUGAD BABOY

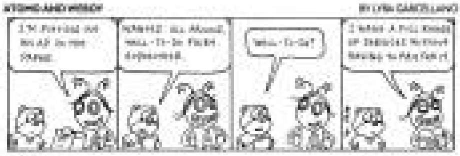


GARFIELD

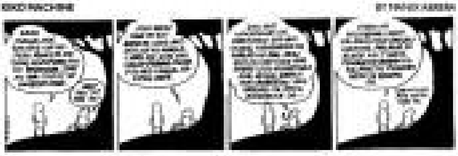


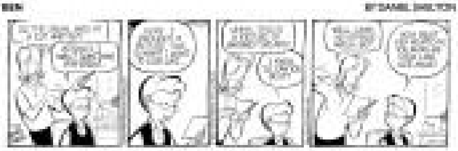
BABY BLUES



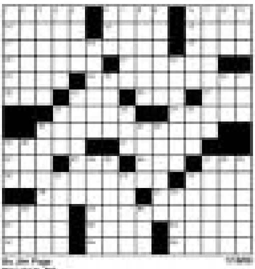


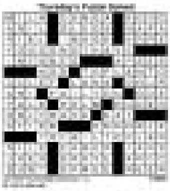






DAILY CROSSWORD





HOROSCOPE

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

			3	4				
	7	8			6	3	9	
	1		7		3			2
3				2				6
4			1		9		8	
	3	2	9			4	1	
				5	1			

Difficulty Level ★★★★

HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

Answer to previous puzzle

1	8	5	6	7	4	3	2	9
2	3	9	8	5	1	7	6	4
7	6	4	3	9	2	1	8	5
6	1	3	7	4	8	9	5	2
5	9	8	1	2	6	4	3	7
4	2	7	5	3	9	8	1	6
8	7	2	9	6	3	5	4	1
3	5	6	4	1	7	2	9	8
9	4	1	2	8	5	6	7	3

Golden . . .

From page B1

result of many talented cast and crew and hopefully help an unusual film like this reach a wider audience."

Richard Zanuck, producer, "Sweeney Todd":

"I am thrilled. I accept this honor on behalf of Tim whose vision made this award possible. I am overjoyed that Johnny's brilliant performance has been honored."

Marion Cotillard, Best Actress-Comedy or Musical, "La Vie en Rose":

"I'm so happy the Hollywood Foreign Press Association recognized the film and my performance. As a French actress, I have always dreamt of being in the company of actors whom I have admired from afar for so long: Daniel Day-Lewis, Javier Bardem, Cate Blanchett, Johnny Depp and Julie Christie. My sincere gratitude to director Olivier Dahan, who is the one that made this all possible."

Julie Christie, Best Actress-Drama, "Away from Her":

"Thank you very much indeed for this award which I will share with Sarah Polley, our wonderful director, who made it all possible, and the terrific cast and crew of 'Away from Her' with whom I was fortunate enough to work."

Queen Latifah, Best Actress in a Mini-Series or Movie Made for Television, "Life Support":

"I am so thrilled. I wish I could be with you tonight to celebrate. 'Life Support' is an important film which addresses important issues. I'm so proud to be recognized for my work in it. I only hope that the film helps in our fight against AIDS and HIV. My partner Shakim Compere and I were so passionate about 'Life Support,' that we signed up to produce it and never imagined it would go this far."

Javier Bardem, Best Supporting Actor, "No Country for Old Men":

"It is a great honor to have been recognized with this award in a time when there are so many outstanding performances in this category. I would like to thank the Coens for their trust and for allowing me to be part of their creative process in this incredible project. I want to share this award with Josh Brolin, Tommy Lee Jones and Kelly Macdonald."

Joel and Ethan Coen, Best Screenplay, "No Country for Old Men":

"We would like to express our gratitude to all our friends and associates who helped us in making this film, especially Cormac McCarthy,

GOLDEN B4



DIRECTOR Joe Wright celebrates "Atonement's" Golden Globe Best Picture-Drama win in Beverly Hills, as does Rosamund Pike.

At the Cinemas

Cinema							
GLORIETTA 1	1 National Treasure Book of Secrets	2 I Am Legend	3 Alvin & The Chipmunks	4 Dragon War			
GLORIETTA 4	1 Alvin & The Chipmunks	2 National Treasure Book of Secrets	3 Sweeney Todd	4 D-War	5 I Could Never Be Your Woman	6 The Heartbreak Kid	7 I Am Legend
GREENBELT 1	1 Sweeney Todd	2 Alvin & The Chipmunks					
GREENBELT 3	1 National Treasure Book of Secrets	2 Alvin & The Chipmunks	3 Sweeney Todd	4 The Heartbreak Kid	5 I Am Legend		
ALABANG TOWN CENTER	1 Alvin & The Chipmunks	2 I Am Legend	3 National Treasure Book of Secrets	4 Sweeney Todd	5 The Heartbreak Kid		
AYALA CENTER CEBU	1 The Heartbreak Kid	2 Sweeney Todd	3 National Treasure Book of Secrets	4 I Am Legend			
MARKET! MARKET!	1 Alvin & The Chipmunks	2 The Heartbreak Kid	3 Sweeney Todd	4 I Am Legend	5 National Treasure Book of Secrets		
TRINOMA	1 I Could Never Be Your Woman	2 The Heartbreak Kid	3 National Treasure Book of Secrets	4 Sweeney Todd	5 Alvin & The Chipmunks	6 D-War	7 I Am Legend

At the Malls

Mall	Event
Glorietta	WELCOME 2008 SALE, January 11 to February 3
Greenbelt	WELCOME 2008 SALE, January 11 to February 3
Alabang Town Center	Label Sale, January 19 & 20; Activity Center
Ayala Center Cebu	January 18; 7pm; South Surface Parking
Market! Market!	Alvin & The Chipmunks Live at Market! Market! January 19 & 20; 1:30pm, 3:30pm & 5:30pm; Activity Center
Cinemagica	Repertory Philippines presents TUESDAYS WITH MORRIE
Ayala Museum	PIONEERS OF PHILIPPINE ART
TriNoma	WELCOME 2008 SALE, January 11 to February 3



Kuh Ledesma

Kuh Ledesma in Cebu and Tagaytay

SHOW TIME

Dance-concert at Captain's Bar

'Comedy Nights' at Eastwood

Korean pianist at Meralco Theater

Tonight





ROUNDUP

Padre Pio bio



'World's Largest Casino'

Broadcasting excellence

Golden Globe ...





LIVING Stars

Editor: Emmie G. Velarde











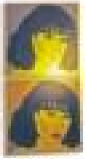
Glorious *forever*

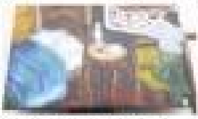


In this miniature universe of paintings, plants and antiques, Gloria Diaz will always be queen



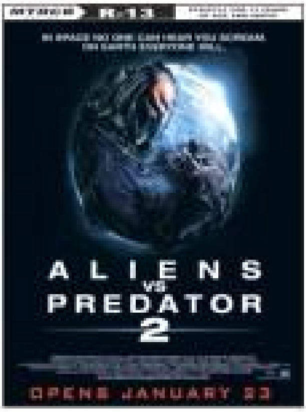





BEDROOM scene by daughter Isabelle



Grandchildren





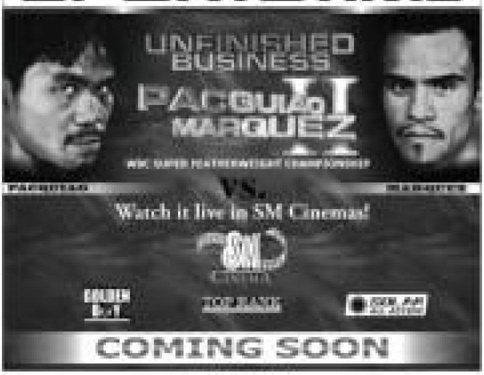


movietime SHOWTIME

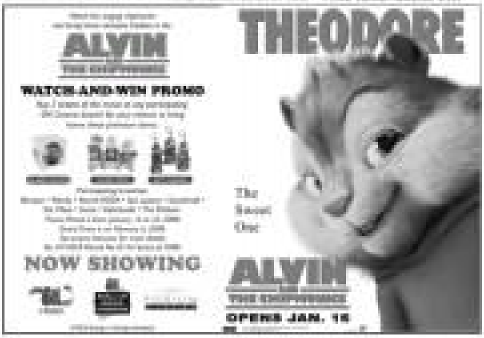
Your life as a movie

SM CINEMA

SPORTSTIME



METRO MANILA

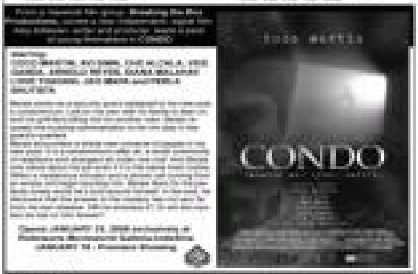


ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD CINEMAS MOVIE GUIDE

www.robinsonsmovieworld.com

GALLERIA

1 SWEENEY TODD - THE	6 DRAGON WAR
2 ALVIN and the CHIPMUNKS	7 I AM LEGEND
3 I COULD NEVER BE YOUR WOMAN	8 indefine: GIRL
4 THE HEARTBREAK KID	9 DESPERADAS
5 NATIONAL TREASURE 2	10 SAKAL, SAKALI SAKLOLO



ERMITA

1 DRAGON WAR	6 I AM LEGEND
2 BEE MOVIE	7 I COULD NEVER BE YOUR WOMAN
3 DESPERADAS	1 THE HEARTBREAK KID
4 SAKAL, SAKALI SAKLOLO	2 ALVIN and the CHIPMUNKS
5 NATIONAL TREASURE 2	3 SWEENEY TODD

METRO EAST

1 SWEENEY TODD	5 I AM LEGEND
2 ALVIN and the CHIPMUNKS	6 THE HEARTBREAK KID
3 DRAGON WAR	7 NATIONAL TREASURE 2
4 I COULD NEVER BE YOUR WOMAN	8 DESPERADAS

NOVALICHES

1 NATIONAL TREASURE 2
2 THE HEARTBREAK KID
3 SAKAL, SAKALI SAKLOLO
4 DESPERADAS
5 DRAGON WAR
6 I AM LEGEND
7 ALVIN and the CHIPMUNKS
8 SWEENEY TODD

PIONEER

1 SWEENEY TODD
2 NATIONAL TREASURE 2/HEARTBREAK KID
3 ALVIN and the CHIPMUNKS
4 DRAGON WAR

STA. ROSA

1 NATIONAL TREASURE 2
2 SWEENEY TODD
3 I AM LEGEND
4 DESPERADAS
5 SAKAL, SAKALI SAKLOLO

LIPA

1 NATIONAL TREASURE 2
2 I AM LEGEND
3 DESPERADAS
4 KATAS ng SAUDI
5 DEATH PROOF

DASMARIÑAS

1 DESPERADAS
2 NATIONAL TREASURE 2
3 I AM LEGEND
4 ALVIN and the CHIPMUNKS
5 SWEENEY TODD

IMUS

1 THE HEARTBREAK KID
2 I AM LEGEND
3 DESPERADAS
4 NATIONAL TREASURE 2
5 SWEENEY TODD
6 ALVIN and the CHIPMUNKS

ANGELES

1 SWEENEY TODD
2 DESPERADAS
3 ALVIN and the CHIPMUNKS
4 NATIONAL TREASURE 2

TARLAC

1 NATIONAL TREASURE 2
2 ENTENG KABISOTE 4
3 SAKAL, SAKALI SAKLOLO

STARMILLS

1 SWEENEY TODD
2 DESPERADAS
3 SAKAL, SAKALI SAKLOLO
4 ALVIN and the CHIPMUNKS
5 NATIONAL TREASURE 2
6 I AM LEGEND

BACOLOD

1 NATIONAL TREASURE 2
2 I AM LEGEND
3 BEE MOVIE / ELIZABETH: GOLDEN AGE
4 DESPERADAS
5 ANAK ng KUMANDER
6 SAKAL, SAKALI SAKLOLO

ILOILO

1 NATIONAL TREASURE 2
2 ELIZABETH: THE GOLDEN AGE
3 DEATH PROOF
4 I AM LEGEND
5 DESPERADAS
6 TIMAWA / 3 DAYS of DARKNESS





DANTE MENDOZA

MY LIGHT-BROWN GOLDEN RETRIEVER was named Lovely by my 11-year-old daughter Angelica. Lovely is now two-and-a-half years old. She is sweet, friendly and patient. She always makes me feel good and relaxed—no matter how late I arrive from shooting. Ever since she was three months old, Lovely would always welcome me home. She'd stand up on her hind legs and try to embrace me! She also loves running around in the garden.

Bayani San Diego Jr.

Tail Tales

Books

JEWEL MISCHE



I BRING THE "NIV Backpack Bible" (by Zondervan) everywhere I go. It has the same content as the traditional Bible (New International Version), but it features several additions. It's very colorful and offers different pieces of trivia. Its cover says that it's perfect for kids on the go. I enjoy reading it. Young people surely won't get bored especially if they have the desire to learn more about the Bible.

Bayani San Diego Jr.



AMY PEREZ

I LIKE READING INSPIRATIONAL BOOKS like "Spiritual Prayers for the Praying Man: Transform Your Life through Powerful Prayer" by White Stone Books. I couldn't find a "Spiritual Prayers" book for women, that's why I'm reading the one written for men. I also read Rhonda Byrne's "The Secret." I have its DVD, too.

I'm also into Charles Swindoll's "Devotions for Growing Strong in the Seasons of Life," which talks about how to be a good person and at the same time how to encourage others to be good. My copy of Joseph Telushkin's "The Ten Commandments of Character" is a gift from my boyfriend's aunt. It teaches you to always think positive.

The Holy Bible is another one of my sources of inspirational words.

Marinel R. Cruz

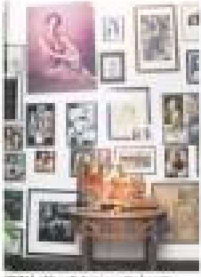
Red Carpet



"JUNO" screenwriter Diablo Cody arrives at the National Board Of Review of Motion Pictures' awards gala in New York.

Glorious forever

From page F1



"WALL of fame" showcases the beauty queen's glamour portraits and photos of her daughters.

sorts of memorabilia—from framed newspaper and magazine clippings to Miss Universe commemorative stamps.

On a table rests her industry awards—including Urian and Metro Manila Film Festival Best Supporting Actress trophies.

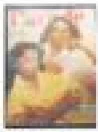
Gloria is particularly proud of a statue crafted by an artist from Paete, Laguna. "He's named Pido and he's a wonderful sculptor. If you look closely, the statue looks like me."

The wooden sculpture is the centerpiece in the dining area, a sharp contrast to the room's art deco glass blinds.

Her sisters lined up an [illegible] Buddha figure in the dining area, too. "That's because we had an all-[illegible] get-together recently," she explains.

After the kids and guests have left, Gloria often sits in the lounge chair in the living room—looking at the photos and artifacts. "This is my favorite corner in the house. On Sunday mornings, I drink coffee and read the papers here."

In this eclectic universe of photos, paintings and antiques, she will forever be queen.



OPEN magazine cover with her sister Ria.



ANTIQUE saint's head is a gift from a friend.